

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed July 22, 2005. Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 1 – 5, 9 – 11, 14 – 16, 19 and 20 remain pending. In particular, Applicants have amended claims 1, 3, 9, 16, 19 and 20, and have canceled claims 6 – 8, 12, 13, 17 and 18 without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Applicants have canceled claims 6 – 8, 12, 13, 17 and 18 merely to reduce the number of disputed issues and to facilitate early allowance and issuance of other claims in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of these canceled claims in a continuing application, if Applicants so choose, and do not intend to dedicate the canceled subject matter to the public. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action indicates that claims 1 - 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Lo*. As set forth above, Applicants have canceled claims 6 – 8, 12, 13, 17 and 18 and respectfully assert that the rejections as to these claims have been rendered moot. With respect to the remaining claims, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

In this regard, *Lo* generally relates to an image scanning system that exhibits the shortcomings generally described in Applicant's Background. That is, *Lo*'s system operates by the user accessing a server to facilitate scanning. In particular, *Lo* discloses:

After performing step 758, ***the client computer 102 is registered with the scanner server 130*** and the user can perform the scan-to-file operation at any time. When the user desires to obtain an image file and transfer this image file to the client computer 102, the user goes to the network scanner (or other networked image acquiring device) which is connected to the scanner server 130 at which the user is registered and selects the scan-to-file option from a displayed menu in step 760. If the client computer 102 is registered with a plurality of scanner servers, the user can go to any of the scanner servers at which he is registered. The present invention allows both the scan-to-

application and scan-to-file operations to take place at the scanner server computer 130. In the preferred embodiment of the invention, a graphical menu is ordinarily displayed on a computer monitor of the scanner server 130. This menu has options which allow the user to select whether it is desired to perform the scan-to-application or scan-to-file operation. In step 762, the user selects the scan-to-file option.

After selecting the scan-to-file option, the server displays a plurality of client computers which have been registered at the scanner server 130 for the scan-to-file operation and have entries in the machine name table of FIG. 12. FIG. 15 illustrates an image 800 which contains a list of names corresponding to registered machine names at the scanner server 130. The list of names includes the name "Mary" 802 which is highlighted. A select button 804, when clicked on by the user, selects the highlighted name. Also included in the image 800 of FIG. 15 are a cancel button 806 and a help button 808 which respectively permit the cancellation of the select operation and also provides help information to a user.

(*Lo* at column 20, lines 24 – 54). (Emphasis added).

Based on the foregoing teachings, it is clear that the scan server is involved with displaying the client computers that can receive scan data. This is in direct contrast to the limitations recited in Applicant's amended claims.

Additionally, *Lo* discloses:

The images are scanned in step 766 using the scanner 144 or other image acquiring device utilizing the TWAIN driver 136. *The scanning operation is controlled by the scanner server 130*, the TWAIN driver 136 along with the scan task software 134. In step 768, the scanner server 130 transmits the image file which was obtained to the selected client computer 102. It is to be noted that the image file which is transmitted in step 768 to the client computer 102 is not transmitted into the application 104 which is running on the client computer 102 but is simply stored as a file 110 within a storage device at the client computer 102.

(*Lo* at column 21, lines 9 – 19). (Emphasis added).

Based on the foregoing teachings, it is clear that the scan server is involved with controlling the scan operation. This also is in direct contrast to the limitations recited in Applicant's amended claims as is described below.

In this regard, Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite:

1. *A scanning method for providing scan data to a host computer interconnected to a scanning device via a server*, said method comprising:

- displaying a host identifier (ID) for identifying a host computer;
- receiving user input selecting the host ID;
- scanning a document or image to generate scan data; and
- transmitting the scan data to the host computer;

wherein the displaying, the receiving, the scanning and the transmitting are performed by the scanning device and not the server.

(Emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully asserts that *Lo* is legally deficient for the purpose of anticipating claim 1. In particular, Applicant respectfully asserts that *Lo* does not teach or otherwise disclose at least the features/limitations emphasized above in claim 1. That is, claim 1 recites that the scanning device “and not the server” performs “the displaying, the receiving, the scanning and the transmitting,” which in *Lo* are performed at least in part by the scan server. Notably, Applicant’s amended claim recites “a server” that is distinct from the “scanning device.” As such, attribution of features disclosed in *Lo* as being performed by a scan server may not be properly used to anticipate features recited as corresponding to the scanning device as appears to have been done in the non-final Office Action. Therefore, Applicant respectfully asserts that claim 1 is in condition for allowance.

Since claims 2 – 5, 16, 19 and 20 are dependent claims that incorporate all the features/limitations of claim 1, Applicant respectfully asserts that these claims also are in condition for allowance. Moreover, these claims recite other features/limitations that can serve as an independent basis for patentability.

With respect to claim 9, Applicant has amended that claim to recite:

9. *A scanning device for providing scan data to a host computer via a server*, said scanning device comprising:
memory for storing a host identifier (ID);
an image sensing module for scanning an image or document, where the scanning is used to generate scan data; and
a display panel for displaying the host ID, where the scanning device transmits the scan data to the host computer that is identified by the host ID in response to receiving user input selecting the displayed host ID and without the user directly accessing the server.

(Emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully asserts that *Lo* is legally deficient for the purpose of anticipating claim 9. In particular, Applicant respectfully asserts that *Lo* does not teach or otherwise disclose at least the features/limitations emphasized above in claim 9. That is, claim 9 recites that “the scanning device transmits the scan data to the host computer that is identified by the host ID in response to receiving user input selecting the displayed host ID and without the user directly accessing the server.” However, *Lo* directly accesses the server as described above. Notably, Applicant’s amended claim recites “a server” that is distinct from the “scanning device.” As such, attribution of features disclosed in *Lo* as being performed by a scan server may not be properly used to anticipate features recited as corresponding to the scanning device as appears to have been done in the non-final Office Action. Therefore, Applicant respectfully asserts that claim 9 is in condition for allowance.

Since claims 10, 11, 14 and 15 are dependent claims that incorporate all the features/limitations of claim 19, Applicant respectfully asserts that these claims also are in condition for allowance. Moreover, these claims recite other features/limitations that can serve as an independent basis for patentability.

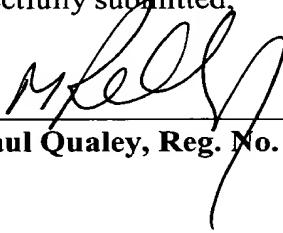
Cited Art Made of Record

The cited art made of record has been considered, but is not believed to affect the patentability of the presently pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 10/19/05.

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Signature